

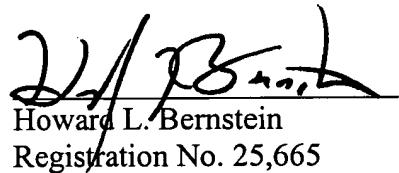
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/192,303

REMARKS

Please note that newly-added claims 14-20 in the present divisional application correspond to the claims of Group III of the Restriction Requirement dated August 13, 2001 in parent application serial number 09/192,303. Group III comprises claims 31-35, 41, and 44 (claim 44 having been grouped with Group III following a determination by Examiner Chiang in a telephone conference of September 27, 2001 with Applicant's representative).

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: October 1, 2001

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Before the first line, the following sentence has been added:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/192,303 (Confirmation Number not yet assigned) filed November 17, 1998, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13 are canceled.

Claims 14-20 are added as new claims.